UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/542
12 May 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 6 MAY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I would kindly like to inform you that the Republic of Turkey has co-sponsored the draft resolution entitled "On the humanitarian situation in and around Kosovo" in full agreement with its content and aim. However, this co-sponsorship in no way indicates any change as regards Turkey's long-standing position concerning the name of Macedonia. Turkey recognizes this State with its constitutional name, "the Republic of Macedonia". I should appreciate having this important point put on record and the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volkan VURAL
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

99-13959 (E) 120599

UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/543
12 May 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 10 MAY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SUDAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Please find enclosed herewith an article published in The New York Times on 10 May 1999, entitled "Previous U.S. Intelligence Shortcomings" (see annex).

That newspaper cited the United States of America's aggression against the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical factory as reflecting one of the apparent failures of the United States to gather intelligence.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elfatih ERWA
Permanent Representative

99-13820 (E) 120599

Annex

Article published in The New York Times
on 10 May 1999

Previous U.S. Intelligence Shortcomings

By The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 9 — The attack on the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade is not the only apparent failure of the United States to gather intelligence or act on it. Some other examples:

Aug. 20, 1998 — President Clinton orders missile attacks on a pharmaceutical plant in Sudan that American officials said was linked to terrorist activities. Within days, allegations of questionable intelligence gathering undermine that position.

Aug. 7, 1998 — The American Embassy in Kenya is destroyed by a car bomb a few months after Ambassador Prudence Bushnell made a plea to the State Department for major security improvements.

May 11, 1998 — India carries out nuclear tests, catching American intelligence by surprise. A report on the failure said the Central Intelligence Agency ignored clear signs the tests were coming.

June 25, 1996 — A blast at the Khobar Towers military base near Dahran, Saudi Arabia, kills 19 American troops. Less than three months before, an Air Force security officer filed a memo highlighting the base's vulnerability to an attack "outside the perimeter" of the compound.

Feb. 13, 1991 — An American missile hits a bunker in Baghdad housing Iraqi civilians. The Pentagon says it thought it was targeting a military installation.

July 3, 1988 — The American warship Vincennes shoots down an Iranian A300 Airbus over the Persian Gulf after mistaking it for a hostile warplane, killing 290 people. An investigation into the incident blamed crew error stemming from the psychological stress of being in a combat situation for the first time.

Oct. 25, 1983 — The United States invades Grenada, a mission fraught with confusion because of an almost complete lack of intelligence data, according to a Defense Department assessment performed after the conflict.

Oct. 23, 1983 — A truck bomb destroys the United States Marine garrison in Beirut, killing 241 servicemen despite a warning by military experts four months earlier of serious failings in American intelligence in Lebanon. The lack of intelligence was a main component of the security lapse that led to the bombing, a commision investigating the incident later reported.